

READING NEWSLETTER

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Author Spotlight...



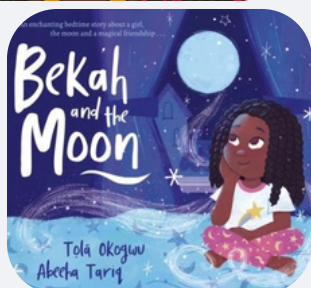
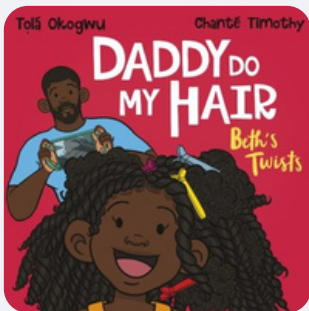
TOLA OKOGWU



Tolá Okogwu is an award-winning and best-selling author of the Onyeka, Daddy Do My Hair and Aziza's Secret Fairy Door series.

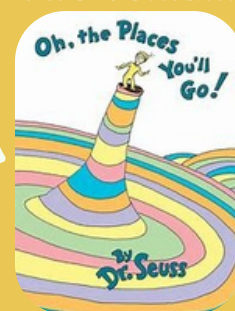


Some of Tola's
bestselling books



In this section, we will have top picks of our favourite books...

This issues 'top pick' is from our QUEST CFO,
Mrs Toniaanne Hewitt.



'Oh, The Places
You'll Go!'
by Doctor
Seuss

WHAT DOES TONIANNE SAY?

I wanted to take a moment to share a book recommendation that I believe would resonate with both children and adults. I have read this book 1000s of times to my children and I love it each time.

This delightful story begins with the narrator guiding an unnamed protagonist, who represents each of us, as they make the pivotal decision to leave their town. As the journey unfolds, the protagonist travels through a variety of geometrical and vibrant landscapes, facing new and diverse challenges along the way.

One particularly intriguing location is "The Waiting Place," which presents a metaphor for those moments in life where we find ourselves in anticipation, unsure of what comes next.

What makes this book truly special is its underlying message about courage and resilience. It beautifully illustrates how we can confront and embrace the myriad challenges life presents us, encouraging us to be brave in the face of uncertainty. The narrative concludes on an open note, inviting readers to reflect on their own journeys and the possibilities that lie ahead.

The simplicity of the text makes it incredibly easy to read, yet it carries a profound poignancy that lingers long after the final page is turned.

I believe this book can inspire thoughtful discussions and reflections.



An Interview with an Author



Why do you choose to read?

'Reading is my happy place. I think of books as a sort of passport that allows me to visit the most amazing places and meet the most fantastic characters. When I'm lost in a book, something magical happens and I love that I can be both entertained as well as educated at the same time.'



Quote of the Month!

Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime."

Martin Luther King Jr.

What have we been up to at Quest Trust?

Take a Peek at our Easter Fun!

Have a look at how some of our schools have celebrated!



A Visit from an Author!



Rebecca Lavelle visits HGCP!

On Friday, 14th March, HGCP welcomed the talented author Rebecca Lavelle, who brought her passion for speech and language development to our school community.

Rebecca, who has been working with the NHS Speech and Language team since 2013, has dedicated her career to supporting children in developing their speech and language skills.

After years of experience, she took a leap of faith and launched her own private therapy service called 'Speech Street.' Her journey has been inspiring, and her commitment to helping children is truly commendable.

In her work, Rebecca often recommended books that focus on key sounds to aid in speech development. However, she found it challenging to find the perfect resources for parents to use at home after expert sessions. This led her to a brilliant idea: why not write her own book? Thus, 'Sammy the Squirrel' was born!

This visit not only enriched our students' understanding of speech development but also fostered a love for reading and storytelling.

Thank you, Rebecca, for your inspiring visit and for sharing your wonderful book with us! We look forward to seeing how 'Sammy the Squirrel' will help our children on their journey to becoming confident communicators.

This delightful book focuses on the 's' sound and features a fun rhyming story, along with top tips and engaging games designed to keep children entertained while learning. Rebecca shared her vision with Miss Brown, our Early Reading Specialist at QUEST Trust: "I wanted to create a high-quality resource that's practical for parents, teachers, and therapists—something children would genuinely enjoy while supporting their speech and language skills." The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, with parents noticing real improvements in their children's confidence and speech sound development.

During her visit, Rebecca read 'Sammy the Squirrel' to our Early Years, Key Stage One, and Lower Key Stage Two pupils, along with their class teachers and support staff. The children were captivated by her storytelling, and it was heartwarming to see their excitement and engagement!

As a special surprise, we were fortunate enough to receive free, signed copies of Rebecca's book, which we plan to share with our pupils for years to come.

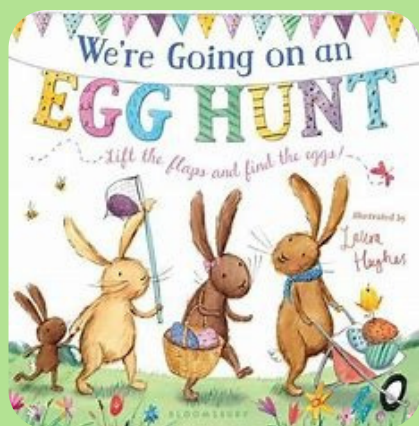
Please keep your eyes peeled for our article in Wigan Observer!



Recommended Reads!



Early Years



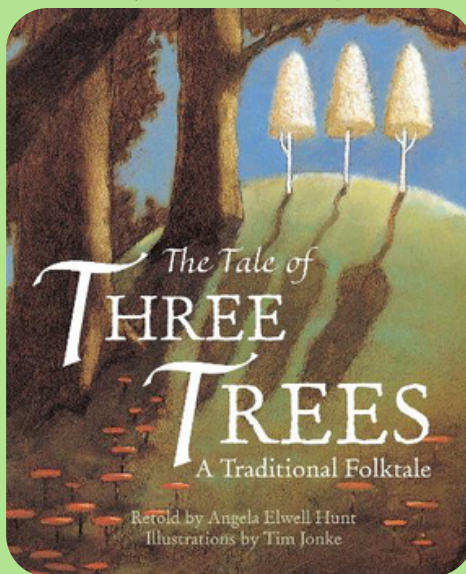
'WE'RE GOING ON AN EGG HUNT' BY LAUREN HUGHES.

Join the Easter Bunnies as they set off on an exciting lift-the-flap Easter egg hunt. With ten eggs to find and count, it's great fun. But watch out for the obstacles along the way - lambs, chicks, bees and ducks - and there's even a wolfish surprise, so do take care.

The delightful illustrations and read-aloud story will be a huge hit with all fans of the classic We're Going on a Bear Hunt.



Key Stage One

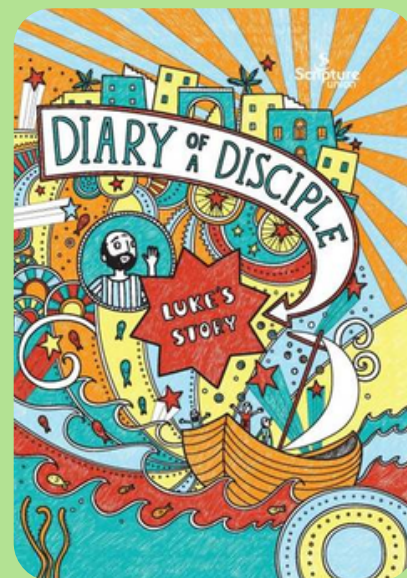


'THE TALE OF THREE TREES' BY ANGELA ELWELL HUNT.

Three trees on a hilltop dream of what they would like to become. This retelling of a classic folk tale weaves in the Christmas story, as well as Easter.

It is lavishly illustrated and a subtle and easy to understand introduction to the story of Jesus to EYFS and KS1 children.

Key Stage Two



'DIARY OF A DISCIPLE - LUKE'S STORY.' BY GEMMA WILLIS.

A modern retelling of St. Luke's gospel in diary form. A very accessible way of engaging children with the bible. Luke tells his amazing story of Jesus using the idioms and language of today.



Easter Reading Activities!



SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Can you spot the 6 differences between the two pictures?



twinkl



Google 'Easter Activities' to find some fun and engaging Easter based crafts like ...